

# AiAiAi

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# SECRET CHASER



TOKYOPOP®



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**Secret Chaser Vol. 1**  
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# SECRET CHASER

Volume 1  
Tamayo Akiyama

 **TOKYOPOP**

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO



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OH, IT'S  
TIME  
FOR MY  
SERVICE.

YOUR WIFE IS  
THE ONLY ONE  
WHO'LL TAKE  
CASES OF YOU.  
YOU SHOULD  
APPRECIATE  
HER MORE.

IN YOUR  
LINE OF  
WORK,  
THERE'S  
NO TELLING  
WHAT MIGHT  
HAPPEN TO  
YOU...

IT'S SO  
OBVIOUS  
WHEN I LOOK  
AT YOU,  
YOSHIDA.

MAYBE IT'S  
TIME YOU  
REIN YOUR  
WIFE FROM  
HER FAMILY  
IN SASAKIHARA.

WHAT?  
HOW DID  
YOU KNOW  
THAT?



YOU'VE GOT  
IT ROUGH,  
DETECTIVE.

DAMN.  
IT'S SO  
TENSEY...



WOULD YOU  
LIKE SOME  
COFFEE?

I HAVE TO  
APOLOGIZE  
FOR THE  
BOSS. HE'S  
ALWAYS THAT  
WAY.

Kaname Kogoro: Shinichi's father's assistant  
(currently in 2nd year in high school)



NANAMI, OUR  
GUEST IS  
LEAVING.

I'M VERY  
BUSY.

Shinichi Tetsuo: Local priest and private investigator

YOU'RE A POLICE  
DETECTIVE, RIGHT?  
WHY DON'T YOU  
GO BACK TO THE  
STATION AND ASK  
YOUR SUPERIOR?

I'M NOT  
BUDGING  
UNTIL YOU  
TELL ME!



--AND  
YOUR  
NEGATIVE IS  
GROKED.  
I HAVE A  
SUSPICION  
FOR YOU.

YOSHIDA.

YOUR  
SLEEVES  
ARE  
YELLOWING--

THAT CASE  
WAS...  
UNUSUAL.  
THOSE  
INCIDENTS!

FOR THREE  
YEARS--  
THREE  
YEARS--  
HE COULDN'T  
GET A HANDLE  
ON IT.

Metropolitan Police Investigation Division 1  
Detective Yuzuki Kazuya







IF YOU EVER HAVE A PROBLEM, I WANT YOU TO COME SEE ME.

...THERE MUST BE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES?

A YOUNG, GOOD-LOOKING BOY LIKE YOURSELF LIVING WITH SHINOZAKI, EVEN THOUGH HE'S NOT A RELATIVE...



OR THAT HE SECRETLY RENDEZVOUS WITH CELEBRITIES EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.

THAT THE FATHER HERE LIKES TO TALK IN YOUNG BOYS... THAT MAYBE HE HAS SOME STRANGE HARRIS, YOU KNOW?

THERE ARE SOME EDWARDS GOING AROUND.



OH, AND ONE MORE THING.

WHOSE IDEA OF A TOY IS THAT RED PENGUIN THERE?

HUH?

HE'S A MINION OF THE PIVEL! YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL!

HE'S NO SERVANT OF GOD, THAT'S FOR SURE.

And he's a teenage



NO...

...THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANTED TO ASK YOU.

...SEARCHING FOR SOME THINGS--BUT I HAVEN'T FOUND IT YET.

FATHER, DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE RED PENGUIN IS?



I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE STATION.

OH, LOOK AT THE TIME!

OF COURSE.

OH, AND BY THE WAY...

MAY I COME BY FOR A DRINK AGAIN?

THANKS FOR THE COFFEE, NUNAMI.









Kobayashi Kai: Also an assistant to Shinozaki, as well as a celebrity singer







SO, THIS PENGUIN. IT FIRST APPEARED RIGHT AS YOSHIDA WAS LEAVING.

AH...



HMM...

...IT VANISHED. AND THE MOMENT I RETURNED...

THEN IT CHANGED LOCATION WHILE NANAMU AND KEI WERE HERE.



IT'S TRUE! IT'S GONE.

IT WAS DEFINITELY THERE ON THAT TABLE.

OH?

WHAT'S THAT, NANAMI?

!?

IT'S HAPPENED AGAIN!

THAT PENGUIN'S DISAPPEARED AGAIN.



BE CAREFUL!

SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT BE HERE, BOSS.

S--

...TALKING ABOUT?

WHAT ARE YOU TWO...



THE RED PENGUIN...

IT'S BEEN MOVING AROUND.



!?



THE REAL  
RED  
PENGWIN...

...IS  
INSIDE THE  
SANGTUARY.



WE DON'T  
WANT  
THE RED  
PENGWIN...

...TO  
WANDER  
AGAIN, AFTER  
ALL.

LOOK  
CAREFULLY  
AT THIS  
PENDANT.

WHAT?

NO, IT'S  
NOTHING  
THAT COM-  
PLICATED.

COULD THIS  
BE SOME  
SORT OF  
TRICK?

AND ALSO  
A BRIDGE  
TO A NEW  
CLIENT.

STAY  
HERE,  
YOU TWO.

THIS IS A  
CHALLENGE  
SENT TO  
ME.

DO YOU  
KNOW,  
FATHER...

BOSS?

BUT  
FIRST...

...WHERE THE  
RED PENGWIN  
IS?

SO  
THAT'S  
IT.



THE RED  
PENGUIN.

A blonde woman with long hair, wearing a dark, form-fitting outfit with a high collar and thigh-high boots, is shown in a dynamic pose, possibly running or jumping. She has a determined expression.



THAT LINE  
WAS A CODE,  
WASN'T IT?

A close-up of a character's face, showing large, dark, circular eyes and a small, dark, triangular mouth. The character appears to be looking upwards with a concerned or questioning expression.



A CODE TO  
CONTACT YOUR  
ALTER EGO--  
THE PIOUS  
DETECTIVE.

A character with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing a dark trench coat, is shown from the chest up. They are looking down with a serious expression.



AND YOUR  
CLIENTS  
ALWAYS COME  
HERE TO THE  
SANCTUARY...

A character with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing a dark trench coat, is shown from the chest up. They are looking down with a serious expression.



SHINOZAKI  
TATSURO-  
SAN.

A blonde woman with long hair, wearing a dark, form-fitting outfit with a high collar and thigh-high boots, is shown in a dynamic pose, possibly running or jumping. She has a determined expression.



WHAT  
YOU  
HAVE...

A close-up of a character's face, showing long, dark hair and a serious expression. The character is looking slightly to the side.



...IN YOUR  
HAND ISN'T  
A ROSARY,  
IS IT?

A character with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing a dark trench coat, is shown from the chest up. They are looking down with a serious expression.



FATHER...

A view of a church interior, showing a long aisle with pews and a cross on the wall. The lighting is dim, creating a somber atmosphere.



YES. I  
WANTED TO  
SEE HOW  
GOOD YOU  
REALLY  
ARE.

THE RED  
PENGUIN.

YOU  
ALREADY  
KNOW  
THE TRUTH  
BEHIND THIS  
ROBBERY, DON'T  
YOU?

YES.



THAT  
WAS THE  
TRIGGER.

IT ALL  
STARTED WITH  
DETECTIVE  
YOSHIDA,  
WHEN HE  
VISITED THIS  
CHURCH.



I'VE  
CHECKED UP  
ON YOU.

TO THE  
WORLD AT  
LARGE...

...YOU'RE  
A HUMBLE  
PRIEST.



BUT THE  
WORLDWIDE  
KNOWS YOU  
AS...

...A FORMI-  
DABLE PRIVATE  
DETECTIVE.  
YOU'RE  
SOMETHING OF  
A RENAISSANCE  
MAN.



AND  
YOU'VE  
COME TO  
CHALLENGE  
ME, IS THAT  
IT?

A RED PENGUIN  
THAT DOESN'T  
ACTUALLY  
EXIST...

AS SOON  
AS THE KEYWORD  
WAS UTTERED,  
NANAMI WAS ALSO  
HYPNOTIZED--LIKE  
A VIEW PAGER  
FROM NOSE TO  
NOSE.

AFTER DETECTIVE  
YOSHIDA WAS  
HYPNOTIZED, HE  
ENTERED THE  
CHURCH AND  
MADE CONTACT  
WITH NANAMI.

NANAMI  
BECAME A  
CARRIER AS  
WELL.

AND  
THROUGH  
NANAMI, KEI  
WAS ALSO  
HYPNOTIZED.

AS LONG AS  
CONTACT COULD  
CONTINUE TO BE  
MADE BETWEEN  
PEOPLE, THE RED  
PENGUIN WOULD  
ENDLESSLY  
APPEAR TO  
MATERIALIZE AND  
THEN DISAPPEAR.

THOSE UNDER  
THE HYPNOTIC  
SPELL WOULD  
UNCONSCIOUSLY  
SPREAD THE  
SPELL TO  
OTHERS.

LET ME  
GUESS.

THE  
PASSWORD  
IS "THAT  
RED  
PENGUIN."

A  
DANGEROUS  
HYPNOTIC  
SPELL  
CAPABLE OF  
SPREADING  
LIKE A  
VIRUS.

IT'S A  
HIGH-LEVEL  
TECHNIQUE--

ONLY  
AN INSTANT OF  
EYE CONTACT IS  
NEEDED.

SHE  
SUCCESSFULLY  
PLACED DETECTIVE  
YOSHIDA UNDER  
HYPNOSIS AS HE  
WAS ABOUT TO  
ENTER THE  
CHURCH.

AND THIS  
MORNING, THE  
WOMAN WHO  
APPEARED AT THE  
SERVICE HALL IN  
MOURNING DRESS--  
SHE HAS PROBABLY  
WORKED  
FOR YOU.

AND AFTER  
THAT, IT  
WAS JUST A  
MATTER OF  
STANDING  
BACK AND  
WAITING.

THE RED  
PENGUIN.

...WHEN A  
CERTAIN  
KEYWORD IS  
MENTIONED.

THAT  
HYPNOTIC  
SPELL  
CAUSES AN  
ILLUSION TO  
APPEAR...



MY NAME IS  
ALEEN KAIZUKA.  
I'M YOUR NEW  
BOSS AND  
EXCLUSIVE  
CLIENT!

HA HA!  
IT'S NO USE  
TRYING TO  
CHANGE THE  
SUBJECT.

HELLO,  
SHINOZAKI  
TATSURO.



YOU'RE  
ABSOLUTELY  
RIGHT.

IT DIDN'T  
TAKE YOU  
LONG TO  
FIGURE OUT  
THIS TRICK.

IT'S NOT A  
BIG DEAL.  
I BRIEFLY  
DABBLED IN  
HYPNOSIS A  
LONG TIME  
AGO.

AFTER ALL,  
THIS GELL  
IS YOUR  
SPECIALTY,  
FATHER.

"HYPNOTIC  
PERSUASION."

DON'T  
TRY TO  
LAUGH IT  
OFF.

PERSUASION  
THAT  
MOON-  
SHAPED  
PENDANT  
THEE?

WHICH  
INSTRUMENT  
DO YOU  
USE?

SPECIAL  
CLIENTS.

BUT ONLY  
A SELECT  
GROUP OF  
PEOPLE CAN  
KNOW THAT  
SECRET.

BUT VERY  
SCARY...

YES, AND  
SHE'S  
QUITE A  
BEAUTY.

...HAS THE  
ABILITY TO CAST  
A HYPNOTIC  
SPELL JUST  
BY LOOKING IN  
SOMEONE'S  
EYES.

ONE  
OF MY  
EMPLOYEES...



THE KAZUKA GROUP IS ONE OF THE TOP COMPANIES IN THE WORLD-- A CORPORATE LEADER.

AND YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW OF US? I SWEAR, YOUNG PEOPLE THESE DAYS.

DON'T YOU READ THE NEWSPAPERS?

OH, REALLY NOW!

I EXPECT YOU TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS QUICKLY.

YOU ARE ONE OF THOSE MYSTERIES, SHINGOZAKI.

AND NOW WE ARE IN A STATE OF CONFUSION TRYING TO SORT OUT THE MYSTERIOUS DEALINGS OF MY PREDECESSOR.

I'M THE CEO! THE BOSS!

I'M NOT JUST SOMEONE'S DAUGHTER.

LOOK!

JUST BECAUSE YOU SHOW UP ALL OF A Sudden CARRYING YOUR PENGUIN AND TRIMPTING YOUR FEATHERS--

LOOK HERE!

WHEN THE PREVIOUS CEO DIED, I WAS NAMED HIS SUC-  
CESSOR.

IT'S ENOUGH TO COVER THREE YEARS' WORTH OF FEES!

HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN ALL THE MONEY MY FAMILY DEPOSITED INTO YOUR ACCOUNT?

STOP POOLING AROUND!

WHO WOULD GIVE THAT MUCH MONEY TO A CHURCH?

STOP YAWNING-- NO MY GRAND

IT HASN'T TO ME, PERSONALLY.

THAT WAS A CHARITABLE DONATION TO THIS CHURCH.

HEY, YOU TWO!

OH.  
SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF SOME HIGH ROLLER.

HEY NANA, WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

DO YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT AMOUNT OF MONEY--  
--WAS ANYTHING OTHER THAN A PRANK??







YOU USE  
THOSE  
HYPNOTIC  
SPELLS FOR  
YOUR WORK.

WHAT  
ABOUT  
YOU?



I USE  
THIS TO  
FREE  
THEM.

YOU  
DON'T  
UNDER-  
STAND

WHEN  
I USE  
THIS...

...IT'S TO  
HELP THOSE  
WHO HAVE  
FALLEN VICTIM  
TO SPELLS  
LIKE THE RED  
PENGUIN.



HON-  
EYEE...

OF  
COURSE.  
THAT WILL  
BE FINE.



I DON'T  
EVER WANT  
TO CATCH  
YOU USING  
HYPNOTIC  
TRICKS AGAIN.

BE VERY  
CAREFUL.

A SERIAL  
HYPNOSIS  
EFFECT CAN  
BE VERY  
DANGEROUS.

THAT JOKE  
COULD  
BACKFIRE.



BUT I'LL  
CATCH HIM BY  
THE TAIL SOON  
ENOUGH.

HE'S  
FEIGNING  
IGNORANCE.



THAT  
MAN.

IT LOOKS  
LIKE HE  
KNOWS  
SOMETHING.



SO WE WERE  
SEEING THINGS  
THAT WEREN'T  
REALLY THERE.

MMM...

IS HUMAN  
PERCEPTION  
REALLY SO  
DELEGATE?

WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK,  
NANANI?



SH?

THE RED  
PENGUIN...



Oh!

YOU  
MUST BE  
TIRED.

DID YOU  
GET ANY  
RESULTS?

HE HASN'T  
HAD THE  
SPELL  
BROKEN  
YET.

COME TO  
THINK OF  
IT, I HOPE  
YOSHIDA IS  
OKAY.

YES.

I WONDER  
IF THEY'RE  
SEEING PEN-  
GUINS ALL OVER  
THE POLICE  
STATION?









"OKAY,  
LET'S  
BEGIN."

"YOU'RE  
JEALOUS,  
AREN'T  
YOU?"

LET'S  
START  
THE  
GAME."



SUDO...



IT'S SO  
PRETTY.  
IS IT  
CRYSTAL?

HEY, KAGEL,  
WHAT'S THAT  
GROSS  
PENDANT?

WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN BY  
SECRET?

HEY!

WHAT?  
WHOP

WHAAT?!

IT'S REAL.  
SOMEONE  
SPECIAL  
GAVE IT TO  
ME.

SOMEONE  
VERY  
SPECIAL.

YOU'RE  
JEALOUS,  
AREN'T  
YOU?





...HAVE A  
REQUEST.

ONE  
DAY...

...WHEN  
A LONG  
TIME HAS  
PASSED...

NO MATTER  
HOW MUCH  
THE TWO  
OF US  
MAY HAVE  
CHANGED  
BY THEN...

EVEN IF  
WE'RE  
FAR  
APART...

EVEN IF  
WE'RE LIVING  
SEPARATE  
LIVES...

~IT'S  
ME.

THE ONE  
WHO'S  
SPENDING  
TIME WITH  
YOU RIGHT  
NOW--

I'M  
HAPPY  
RIGHT  
NOW,  
AREN'T  
I?

SUDO?

SUDO  
YOSHIMI,  
THAT'S ME,  
RIGHT?









WHY  
DID THIS  
HAPPEN?

A  
BLACK  
DRESS?



SHE DIED  
IN A BLACK  
DRESS.



THE WEIRD  
THING IS,  
SHE'D TAKEN  
OFF HER  
WEDDING  
GEAR.



WHAT?

THEY  
FOUND  
A  
SUICIDE  
NOTE!



THE BLACK  
DRESS IS  
ALWAYS  
THERE!



NO MATTER  
HOW HARD I  
TRY, THERE IS  
NO ESCAPE.



IN A  
FEW DAYS,  
SOMEONE ELSE  
WILL BE  
KILLED.



ONCE THE  
DOOR WAS  
LOCKED,  
SHE MIXED  
THE POISON  
IN HER  
DRINK AND  
INGESTED IT.

THE CAUSE  
OF DEATH  
WAS  
POISONING  
BY A FATAL  
DOSE OF  
CYANIDE.

THE BRIDE  
LOCKED  
THE DOOR  
FROM INSIDE  
WHILE THE  
BRIDESMAIDS  
WERE  
OCCUPIED.





WAIT!

SO  
HERE I  
AM.

...IT'S  
UNNATURAL  
FOR A  
PRIEST TO BE  
SUMMONED  
TO A WEDDING  
CEREMONY,  
WOULD YOU?

YOU  
WOULDN'T  
SAY...



THIS...

...ISN'T A  
SUICIDE,  
IS IT?

THERE  
MUST  
BE...

...ANOTHER  
REASON  
YOU'RE  
HERE.



WHO  
KNOWS?

I DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE  
TALKING  
ABOUT,  
YOSHIDA.



YOSHIDA.  
WHAT A  
COINCIDENCE.

DON'T  
PLAY  
DUMB!

WHY  
ARE YOU  
HERE?  
TELL ME!

ANSWER  
ME!

SHINOZAKI!

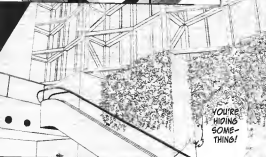
HEY!



IT'S ONLY  
NATURAL  
THAT THE  
POLICE  
WOULD BE  
AT A CRIME  
SCENE!

WHAT  
ABOUT YOU,  
YOSHIDA?  
WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING  
IN A PLACE  
LIKE THIS?

LISTEN!







SHE HAD SUCH A STRONG SPARK IN HER EYE. A VERY REGULAR GIRL...

SHE HAD HER FOOT ON THE GROUND, BUT SHE WAS ALSO A DREAMER.

SHE WAS A VERY PRETTY GIRL. SHE GOT SCOUTED A LOT.

AFTER SHE GRADUATED, SHE WORKED AS A MODEL.

YOSHIDA...

I...

I FINALLY FOUND IT...

SHE WOULD NEVER COMMIT SUICIDE

NOT HER.

YOSHIDA...



OUT THERE...

...A LOT HAPPENED. WE DIDN'T SEE EACH OTHER FOR YEARS.

BUT LAST WEEK...

...I GOT A CALL FROM HER!

...OUT OF THE BLUE

SHE TOLD ME SHE WAS GETTING MARRIED.

PLEASE, WAIT...

THE BRIDE'S NAME IS SUDO YOSHIMI.

WE WENT TO COLLEGE TOGETHER. SHE WAS A YEAR BELOW ME.

WE WERE MY PARTNER IN OUR CLASS.







I'M JUST SAYING THAT IT MIGHT BE A POSSIBILITY.

THE LAST PERSON TO SEE THE BRIDE...

...MIGHT HOLD THE KEY TO SOLVING THE CASE.



IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A LOT FASTER IF YOU JUST PLAYED THE GAME YOURSELF, BUT YOU MADE ME DO IT.

YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO MAKE ME LATE ME, AREN'T YOU?

LISTEN...  
YOU TALK ABOUT CONDITIONS...

OF COURSE NOT.

I GAVE YOU A HINT, DIDN'T I?



WHO WAS THE LAST PERSON TO SEE THE BRIDE?

YOSHIDA.

IF ONLY IT WOULD TILT OVER TO THE LEFT A LITTLE BIT MORE.



GGRRR. DAMN YOU.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?



...THEN IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO GO BY THE BOOK.

IF YOU THINK THAT THIS CASE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A CRIME...



YOU MEAN...

...THE LAST ONE TO SEE HER ALIVE?

HM, THE BRIDE-MAD.



WHAT WAS  
WRITTEN IN  
THE NOTE?

THE  
SUICIDE  
NOTE.

THE NOTE  
LEFT AT THE  
SCENE WAS  
WRITTEN BY  
HAND.

ARE YOU  
SAVING THAT  
SOMEONE ELSE  
COULD HAVE  
DELIBERATELY  
PREPARED THAT  
AND LEFT IT AT  
THE SCENE?

"BLACK  
WILL BE MY  
WEDDING  
DRESS..."



IN ANY  
EVENT, I  
UNDER-  
STAND YOUR  
SIMPLE-  
MINDED  
DEDICATION.

AND IT  
WAS VERY  
AMUSING.



SOMEONE  
HOLDS THE  
KEY TO THIS  
PUZZLE.

IF WE  
QUESTION THE  
BRIDESMAID,  
SOMETHING  
MAY COME  
UP.

RIGHT?

BUT  
THERE'S  
ONE  
THING...

...THAT  
DOESN'T  
ADD UP.



WELL,  
FOR EX-  
AMPLE...

WE CAN  
LOOK AT IT AS  
SOME KIND  
OF STORY, OR  
ADVERTISING  
COPY,  
PERHAPS.

IT COULD  
ALSO BE  
PART OF  
SOME  
SPEECH OR  
DIALOGUE.



AH...

YES, IT WAS  
DEFINITELY  
HER HAND-  
WRITING.

BUT HOW CAN  
WE EXPLAIN  
THAT NOTE  
UNLESS WE  
DEAN SHE  
WROTE IT?



"WITH  
THIS MES-  
SAGE..."

"I SHALL  
SURELY  
CHOOSE  
DEATH  
MORE THAN  
ANYTHING..."

...TO BE  
TAINIED IS  
A HORRIBLE  
SIN..."



I'M SURE  
YOU WERE  
THE FIRST  
TO REALIZE  
THAT.

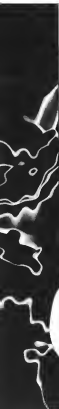
YOSHIDA?



I KNOW.  
WE CAN DO  
A HAND-  
WRITING  
ANALYSIS.  
THAT WAY...

DON'T  
TRY TO  
TAKE THE  
EASY WAY  
OUT.  
  
THAT  
NOTE WAS  
WRITTEN BY  
HER OWN  
HAND.

DON'T  
TRY TO  
TAKE THE  
EASY WAY  
OUT.



THAT'S  
IT...

...ISN'T  
IT?  
SHINO-  
ZAKI.

I JUST  
SAID THAT I  
WOULD LET  
YOU HELP.  
DIDN'T I?

I THINK YOU  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU NEED TO  
DO FROM HERE  
ON OUT, DON'T  
YOU?



Lovely  
music



Morino  
Izumi

Find it  
with  
INDEX

WAIT.

SUDO FOUND  
A CAREER AS  
A MODEL.



IF SOMEONE  
AROUND HER  
HAD SOMEHOW  
GOTTEN A HOLD  
OF THINGS SHE  
WROTE AND  
MANIPULATED  
THEM...

BUT WHEN  
SHE WAS IN  
COLLEGE, SHE  
OFTEN CON-  
SIDERED GOING  
INTO ADVERTIS-  
ING.



THIS IS NO  
ORDINARY  
CASE.

WITHOUT  
EVIDENCE  
THE POLICE  
CAN'T DO  
ANYTHING.

WELL YOU  
SAY,  
SHINOZAKI.  
THESE  
ARE JUST  
THEORIES.



GOOD,  
IZUMI!  
SMILE!  
SMILE!

THAT'S  
IT!  
THAT'S  
IT!

OKAY,  
GOOD!

GREAT  
WORK!

WHY  
DON'T  
WE TAKE  
A SHORT  
BREAK?



I KNOW.  
THE  
BRIDE.

SUPPO...

I NEED TO  
PURSUE  
EVERY LEAD  
ON EVERY  
PERSON  
WHO MIGHT  
KNOW WHAT  
HAPPENED...

... DURING  
THE TIME OF  
THE CRIME.



GOOD  
EVENING.  
LET ME  
INTRODUCE  
YOU.

OH,  
HELLO!

THIS IS THE  
NEW DIRECTOR  
AND PLANNER  
IN CHARGE  
OF THE NEW  
SERIES.

KUDO  
KAORI.

I'M KUDO.  
PLEASED TO  
MEET YOU,  
KEI.



OH...

PLEASED  
TO MEET  
YOU.



SO,  
NANAMI.

HOW, I  
SEE.

JUST WHEN  
IS SHINOZAKI  
COMING  
BACK?



HE WAS  
TAKING  
YOSHIDA  
TO AN  
ARCADE.

WHEN I GOT  
HIS CALL, HE  
SAID ABOUT  
HALF AN  
HOUR.

SO ANY  
MINUTE  
NOW, I  
GUESS.



HEY,  
IZUMI.

OH,  
WHAT-  
EVEE.

WHEN I  
FINISH  
THIS JOB,  
I'LL HEAD  
RIGHT  
OVER.

I'LL  
SEE  
YOU  
THEN.



THE BLACK DRESS

1000

3



KEL I THINK  
IT WOULD  
LOOK VERY  
GOOD ON  
YOU

THE  
BLACK  
DRESS.

I PROMISE  
TO FIND  
THE  
KILLER.

SUDO!

END OF  
CRIME 2



NO  
MARRIAGES.  
NO LOVERS.

THE  
COMMANDMENTS  
OF THE BLACK  
WITCH ARE VERY  
SEVERE.

BUT...

NOBODY  
CAN GET  
OUT OF IT.

SO THE  
THREE OF  
US ALWAYS  
HAVE TO BE  
TOGETHER.

NOBODY  
CAN BETRAY  
EACH  
OTHER.

OKAY?

THIS IS A  
SECRET  
BETWEEN THE  
THREE OF  
US!

SO IT'S A  
PROMISE.









HER MEASURE-  
MENTS.

WHAT  
WAS  
IT?

UH, JUST A  
MOMENT AGO,  
YOU SEEMED  
TO REALIZE  
SOMETHING  
WHILE LOOK-  
ING AT THE  
MONITOR.

POSS?

YOSHIDA  
WAS  
FEELING...

...WITH THE  
VICTIM?  
HOW SAD.

WHAT?

THAT'S ONE POSSIBILITY, BUT, WHAT ELSE?

BE SURE  
TO TELL  
YOSHIDA.

HER  
TWO WERE  
MEASURE-  
MENTS.

IF YOU TELL  
HIM THAT IT'S  
ANOTHER  
HINT, HE'LL  
UNDERSTAND.



SO...

...THAT'S  
IT.

I NEED TO  
GO OUT FOR  
A WHILE,  
BUT PLEASE  
CONTINUE  
YOUR RE-  
SEARCH.

I JUST RE-  
MEMBERED  
SOMETHING  
URGENT.

WHAT  
IS IT?

WHAT?

I  
SUSPECT...

...THAT IF YOU  
CONTINUE TO  
INVESTIGATE THE  
SUSPECT'S  
BEYOND THE  
BLACK DRESS,  
YOU'LL FIND  
SOMETHING ELSE.

I'M SURE  
YOSHIDA...

TELL HIM  
TO EXAMINE  
THE BODY.  
TRY TO KEEP  
HIM CALM.

WILL CALL  
WHILE I'M  
OUT, SO,  
GO, HMM.

OKAY. EITHER  
WAY, I'LL GO  
WHERE HE  
SAYS.

...THERE'S  
ANOTHER  
MESSAGE FROM  
THE BOSS.

ALSO...

HE MUST  
BE UP TO  
SOMETHING.

SINCE  
HE'S  
SAYING  
IT...

WERE  
THREE  
SIZE  
MEASUREMENTS?

I'LL CALL  
YOU BACK.  
IF SHINGZAKI  
HAS ANY MORE  
MESSAGES,  
CAN YOU LET ME  
KNOW?

OH!  
REGARDING  
THAT...

WAVE

WHAT...

...ARE  
YOU  
SAYING?

SHING-  
ZAKI SAID  
THAT...

HE'S  
PROBABLY  
AT A LOSS  
RIGHT NOW.

WE NEED  
TO HAVE  
THE THIRD  
ONE COME  
FORWARD.

THE ONE  
AT THE  
HOTEL WHO  
PRODUCED  
ANOTHER  
DEATH...

INVOLVING  
MURDER  
QUEST

WHAT IF ONE OF THE WEDDING GUESTS HAD SAID SOMETHING PECULIAR ABOUT THE BRIDESMAID?

WHY ARE...

...THAT I SHOULD INVESTIGATE ANYONE WHO KNEW ABOUT THE BRIDE'S FINAL MOMENTS, SAID.

...YOU DEFINITELY SAID...

THE THIRD...

HE SAID WE NEED THE THIRD GUY TO COME FORWARD.

HE DEFINITELY SAID THAT.

...GUY?

HE MUST HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN. THE BRIDESMAID WAS NEARLY 90, AFTER ALL.

THE GUEST ONLY SAW THE PROFILE OF HER FACE FOR AN INSTANT.

...A GUEST WAS SURPRISED TO SEE A YOUNG BRIDESMAID EMERGING FROM THE BRIDE'S ROOM...

JUST BEFORE THE INCIDENT...

A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY?

WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY THAT?

THANKS A LOT. OKAY, TALK TO YOU SOON.

YEAH, I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND.

DOES THAT HELP YOU?

...THAT TIME...

SHINOBU...



PRESENT



THAT COULD  
BEHOLD TO THE  
THIRD ONE THAT  
SHINOZAKI WAS  
TALKING ABOUT.

WHAT IF  
THERE WERE  
ACTUALLY TWO  
BRIDESMAIDS  
PRESENT  
DURING  
THOSE FINAL  
MOMENTS?

DID SHE  
MAGGUE-  
ADE AS A  
BRIDESMAID  
IN ORDER TO  
GET CLOSE  
TO HER?

IS SHE  
THE ONE  
WHO  
POISONED  
SUO?

IS IT  
HER?

WHERE I'M  
GOING RIGHT  
NOW, IN THAT  
PLACE...

AM I  
REALLY  
GOING TO  
FIND A CLUE  
THERE?

SHINOZAKI  
WAS  
PROBABLY  
TRYING TO  
TELL ME  
THAT

NO, HE  
DEFINITELY  
WAS





BUT IT'S  
SOME-  
ONE  
ELSE!

...BODY  
...

...MERELY  
LOOKS  
SIMILAR.



WILL  
YOU  
HELP  
ME?

HELP...



VOSHIDA.



THAT...

THAT'S  
IMPOSS-  
IBLE...



AH...

WERE  
THESE  
SOME  
MEASUREMENTS?



WHO IS  
THIS?

THIS...



THIS  
ISN'T  
SUDDO!

THIS...

WHO  
THE  
HELL  
IS  
THIS?





YOU SAID...

...YOU HADN'T HEARD FROM HER FOR THREE YEARS.

I ASSUME SHE JILTED YOU.

YOU TWO WERE FORMER LOVERS.

YOU KNOW...

...EVERY DETAIL ABOUT YOUR CURRENT WIFE, ASKED ALL THE WAY DOWN TO HER RIMS SIZE.

YOU'RE AN HONEST MAN.

AND THAT'S WHY I KNEW YOU WOULD REMEMBER THE VICTIM'S THREE MEASUREMENT SIZES, EVEN THOUGH YOU HADN'T SEEN HER FOR SO LONG.

YOU DON'T NEED TO TALK ABOUT THAT.

YOU WERE DOWN IN THE DUMPS.

YOUR CURRENT WIFE HELPED YOU RECOVER.

IT APPEARS...

...THAT YOU UNDERSTOOD THE MEANING OF MY MESSAGE.

HOW...

...DID YOU KNOW THAT I WOULD UNDERSTAND?

BECAUSE EVERYTHING YOU THINK SHOWS UP ON YOUR FACE.

SEEING HOW YOU COMPLETELY LOST CONTROL, ANYBODY COULD HAVE GUESSED.

SHINOZAKI



EXACTLY.  
THERE ARE  
THREE WOMEN  
INVOLVED.

THREE  
SIZE  
MEASURE-  
MENTS...

THREE  
HANDS...

OH MY  
GOD, ARE  
YOU SAYING  
THAT THIS  
CASE...



I COULDN'T  
INITIALLY TELL  
FROM THE  
THREE BODY  
MEASURE-  
MENTS

MANY WOMEN  
HAVE THE SAME  
MEASUREMENTS.  
YOU WERE WISE  
TO LOOK AT HER  
HANDS.

BUT MY  
MENTION OF  
THE THREE SIZE  
MEASURE-  
MENTS WAS  
INTENDED TO  
PROVIDE TWO  
CLUES.

YOUR ABILITY TO  
OBSERVE AND  
DISSESS OVER  
EXPOSED BODY  
PARTS IS FAR  
SUPERIOR TO  
THAT OF MOST  
PEOPLE.

I HAVEN'T  
FORGOT-  
TEN.

THAT'S  
WHY I  
NOTICED.

HER  
SIZE

HER  
RING SIZE.  
THE BONE  
STRUCTURE OF  
THE VICTIM'S  
HAND IS  
DIFFERENT.





CASE

THE BLACK BISHOP







NANAMI!!

WHAT  
HAPPENED?  
PULL  
YOURSELF  
TOGETHER!

I WILL NOT  
FORGIVE...



I WAS  
CARELESS.

I DIDN'T  
REALIZE THAT  
SOMETHING  
WAS WRONG.  
AND I  
LOOKED HER  
STRAIGHT IN  
THE EYE...

HURRY...



I MUST  
GO.



TRAITORS  
WILL NOT BE  
FORGIVEN





NOW...

...DIE  
IN MY  
PLACE!

HER  
POWERS  
ARE  
AMAZING.

SHE  
PUT ME AND  
KEI UNDER HER  
SPELL BEFORE  
WE COULD DO  
ANYTHING.

THE  
BLACK  
WITCH'S  
"BLACK  
DRESS."

THE  
THREE OF  
US CURSED  
A SPELL OF  
DEATH INTO  
THIS DRESS,  
SEWN FROM  
THE HAIR OF  
MANY OTHERS...



YOU  
SHALL BE A  
SACRIFICE...

EVERY-  
THING...

...IN  
ORDER TO  
COMPLETE  
THE FINAL  
RITUAL.

WEARING THE  
BLACK WITCH'S  
DRESS, YOU  
ARE GOING  
TO THROW  
YOURSELF  
FROM THIS  
ROOFTOP.





THE PRICE OF  
BETRAYAL...

I ALWAYS  
THOUGHT  
THAT YUKO  
AND YOSHIMI  
WOULD  
BETRAY  
ME...

...ONE  
DAY.

THAT'S  
WHY I  
TOLD THEM  
NOTHING.

THAT'S WHY I  
DIDN'T TELL  
THEM.

HA HA!  
SERVES  
HER RIGHT,  
OKADA FROM  
CLASSROOM  
B.

WHO  
WILL BE  
NEXT?

THERE'S  
ONLY ONE WAY  
TO ESCAPE  
FROM THE  
PUNISHMENT  
OF THE BLACK  
WITCH.

AND  
SMALL...

SO  
PITIFUL...

HOW  
COULD  
THIS  
BE?

THEY  
PROBABLY  
TRIED THEIR  
HARDEST TO  
FIND YOU,  
SO THAT YOU  
COULD SAVE  
THEM.

YUKO AND  
YOSHIMI...

THEY TRIED  
TO ESCAPE  
FROM THE  
BLACK  
PRESS.

SUCH  
FOOLISH  
GIRLS...





SO  
YOU...

...REALLY  
WERE  
ALIVE...



WHAT  
WERE YOU  
THINKING?

WHY...

...DID  
YOU TAKE  
YOUR OWN  
APPEARANCE?  
YOUR  
HISTORY?



...WHAT'S THE  
CONNECTION  
BETWEEN YOU  
GIRLS AND  
THE FACTS IN  
THESE FILES?

ALL OF THE  
SUICIDES THE  
THREE OF YOU  
LEFT IN YOUR  
WAKE...

WHY DID  
YOU KILL  
THAT GIRL?



THE STORY  
BEGAN WHEN  
WE WERE  
STILL IN  
JUNIOR HIGH.

SUDO  
YOSHIMI,  
TACHIBANA  
YUKO, AND I,  
KUDO KAORI.



I DON'T  
BELIEVE  
IT.

I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND  
WHAT'S  
BEEN  
HAPPENING!

EVEN AFTER  
READING  
NANAMI'S  
FILES...

...AND  
SEEING  
WHAT YOU  
GAVE TO  
HIM.

I DON'T  
KNOW...

...IF  
YOU'RE THE  
REAL SUDO  
OR NOT

YOU ARE  
SUDO,  
AREN'T  
YOU?



YUKO  
WAS THE  
BRAINY  
ONE.

WE  
WERE ALL  
ADOPTED.

I  
ADORED  
THEM.

YOSHIMI  
WAS SO  
LONELY.

THE TWO  
OF THEM  
WERE SO  
ADORABLE.

I THOUGHT  
OF THEM  
AS MUCH  
MORE  
THAN EVEN  
SISTERS.

BUT EVEN  
THOUGH THE  
THREE OF US  
WERE...

...LIKE  
SISTERS...

KUDO  
KAORU.

MY  
LIFE WAS  
A LITTLE  
DIFFERENT  
THAN THE  
OTHER TWO.



WE WERE  
ALWAYS  
TOGETHER.

WE FLEADED  
TO STICK  
TOGETHER--  
FOREVER AND  
EVER.

WE WERE  
AS ONE.  
OR SO WE  
THOUGHT.

THE THREE OF  
US SHARED A  
CONNECTION...

NONE OF US  
WERE RAISED  
BY OUR BIRTH  
PARENTS.

A STRONG  
BOND FROM  
HAVING BEEN  
RAISED IN  
SIMILAR CIR-  
CUMSTANCES.



AND THAT'S WHY  
SHE KNEW THAT  
ONE DAY, THEY  
WOULD SURELY  
ABANDON HER.

SHE  
WASN'T  
LIKE THE  
OTHER  
TWO.

THERE IS NO  
SIN MORE  
HORRIFYING  
THAN TO BE  
DECEIVED...

...WHEN  
SHE MET  
HIM.

AND  
THAT'S...

HE SAVED  
KAORI FROM  
HELL.

A VERY  
SPECIAL  
PERSON.

WHEN SHE  
STARTED  
JUNIOR HIGH,  
SHE WAS  
SEVERELY  
ABUSED BY HER  
STEPFATHER.

ONLY...

HELP!

...SHE WAS  
DIFFERENT  
THAN KAORI.

SHE  
WAS...

KAORI WAS  
THE THIRD  
WHEEL.

SHE WAS  
ALWAYS  
TOGETHER  
WITH YOSHIMI  
AND YUKO.

BUT AT THE  
SAME TIME,  
SHE WASN'T  
REALLY INTO  
THEM.

--KAORI  
BEGAN  
TO GROW  
EVER MORE  
HOLLOW.

WHILE YOSHIMI  
AND YUKO  
CHASED THEIR  
DREAMS AND  
BEGAN TO  
SHINE--



WATCHING  
THE  
FACES OF  
THOSE...

...WHO  
BETRAYED  
KAORU  
HAPPY WITH  
FEAR.

IT WAS FUN,  
WATCHING HER  
STREPPATHER  
STRUGGLE FIT-  
FULLY AFTER THE  
SPELL WAS CAST  
UPON HIM.

...THAT SHE  
COULD  
HAVE  
LOTS OF  
FRIENDS.

THE  
PRIEST  
TOLD  
HER...

SHE  
BECAME  
OBSESSED  
WITH THE  
POWER  
GRANTED BY  
THE BLACK  
WITCH.

YOSHIMI  
AND  
YUKO  
QUICKLY  
JOINED  
HER.

THE GREATER  
HATE  
GROWN. THE  
MORE FUN  
THE GAME  
BECAME.

AND TO THAT  
END, SHE  
CAST A SPELL  
ON ANYONE  
WHO BROUGHT  
HAPPINESS TO  
THE LIVES OF  
THOSE TWO  
GIRLS...

A SECRET  
THAT SLOWLY  
ATE AWAY AT  
THEIR HEARTS.

SHE  
ACQUIRED  
AN IN-  
CREDIBLE  
POWER.

KAORU WAS  
CHOSEN...

...BY THE  
BLACK  
WITCH.

IT WAS AS IF  
SHE WAS AN  
OMNIPOTENT  
DICTATOR. SHE  
POSSESSED  
POWERFUL  
HYPNOTIC  
POWERS.

SHE EVEN  
GRANTED  
SPECIAL  
POWERS TO  
YOSHIMI AND  
YUKO.

A VERY  
WONDER-  
FUL...

...PRIEST.



A  
PRIEST?

AND YOSHIMI  
AND YUKO  
WOULD NEVER  
LEAVE KAORU  
AGAIN.

...WOULD  
NEVER BE  
ABLE TO LAY  
A HAND ON  
KAORU AGAIN.

KAORU WAS  
REBORN.  
HER STEP-  
FATHER...



...WITH  
THE BLACK  
DRESS.

WE WOULD  
CONTINUE THE  
BEAUTIFUL  
BLACK  
RITUALS...

AS THE BLACK  
WITCH, I COULD  
MAKE THEM  
OBEY ME  
FOR ALL OF  
ETERNITY.



...RITUAL.

A  
SACRIB...

ONE BY ONE,  
I LED THOSE  
DEEMED UN-  
NECESSARY TO  
THEIR DEATHS.

I HAD THE  
POWER OF HYP-  
NOSIS.



ANYBODY  
THAT I  
HATED...

...TRASH-  
EDS,  
ADULTS,  
GLASS-  
MATES...

A NEW  
HAIR EVERY  
MONTH.

A SAVED  
THEM INTO  
THE BLACK  
DRESS.



I WOULD  
TAKE A  
SINGLE  
HAIR FROM  
THE HEAD  
OF EACH  
VICTIM.

A  
SOUVENIR.



REV...

LET'S  
PLAY A  
GAME.

A SECRET  
GAME...

...JUST  
FOR THE  
THREE OF  
US.

AH...

YOSHIMI  
AND YUKO  
AND I...

FINALLY, I  
BECAME THEIR  
EQUAL. NO,  
I BECAME  
GREATER THAN  
THEM.

AND  
ULTIMATELY I  
WAS ABLE TO  
POSSESS  
THEM.

...WE  
WERE ABLE  
TO ACQUIRE  
IMMORTAL-  
ITY!

YUKO WASN'T JUST USING HIM TO ADVANCE HER CAREER. SHE FELL IN LOVE WITH HIM.

SHE BECAME ONE OF THE WITCH'S COMMANDMENTS!

... SHE SUDDENLY FOUND HERSELF IN THE SPOTLIGHT. THE BUZZ WAS UNPRECEDENTED.

YUKO WAS ONLY AN AVERAGE MODEL.

BUT AFTER SEVERAL YEARS...

BUT BEHIND THE SCENES, A LOVER WAS FILLING THE GRENDS.

WE EVER SHAPED HISTORIES. EVERYTHING ABOUT US HAS TRADED A PUNISHMENT RITUAL KNOWN AS REGENERATION.

YOU'RE THE BLACK WITCH!

SO THAT'S WHY NOBODY EVER ...

FOUND OUT!

YOU'RE ABLE TO USE HYPNOSIS TO COMPLETELY SHIFT ONE PERSON'S MIND INTO ANOTHER'S BODY?

WHAT?

NO ONE COULD HAVE STOPPED IT. THANKS TO PLASTIC SURGERY, I WAS REBORN AS YUKO.

I KILLED YUKO'S LOVER OF COURSE. SHE NEVER KNEW ANY OF THIS.

STOP...

... I DON'T WANT TO KILL... ANYMORE...

ONE BY ONE.

THIS GAME OF DEATH HAS NO END.

THE THREE OF US...  
... REMAINED BEST FRIENDS FOR YEARS

IT WAS AS IF...

I ADORED THEM.

AND ALTHOUGH WE WENT OUR SEPARATE WAYS AS WE GOT OLDER...

IT WAS AS IF WE WERE MORE THAN LOVERS.

... WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER.

AND YOSHIMI AND YUKO BECAME SUCCESSFUL MODELS. EVERYTHING WAS SO BRIGHT.

AS WE FOLLOWED OUR RESPECTIVE CAREERS, I BECAME A MULTI-TALENTED WRITER/CREATOR AND MADE A SPLASH IN THE INDUSTRY.





SHE WISHED  
THAT YOU  
MIGHT BE  
SPARED...

...IF  
POSSIBLE.

YUKO  
SAID THAT SHE  
WOULD BEAR THE  
BURDEN OF ALL  
THOSE WHOM SHE  
HAD SENTENCED  
TO DEATH.

IF  
POSSIBLE...

AND  
AFTER THAT,  
YUKO WAS  
COMPELLED BY  
THE HYPONOTIC  
SPELL TO PUT  
ON THE BLACK  
DRESS AND  
SWALLOW THE  
POISON.

OR MAYBE  
SHE DID IT ON  
IMPULSE.

WHEN THE  
FORCE BEHIND A  
POWERFUL SPELL  
DIES, THOSE  
INFECTED BY THE  
ENCHANTMENT  
USUALLY MEET A  
TRAGIC END.

MIXING THE  
POISON INTO HER  
DRINK MAY HAVE  
BEEEN HER FINAL  
CONSCIOUS ACT  
TO ESCAPE FROM  
THE FEAR OF  
DEATH.

UNFORTUNATELY,  
YOU ACCEPTED  
THE BLACK  
WITCH. I CANNOT  
FREE YOU.

BUT MY  
CLIENT  
IMPOSED  
ME TO DO  
SOMETHING.

YUKO...



CALM  
DOWN  
YOSHIMU!  
IT'S JUST  
A DREAM.  
IT'LL BE  
OKAY.

SHE SAID  
THAT THE  
JUDGMENT OF  
THE BLACK  
DRESS WAS  
COMING  
SOON.

SHE SAID  
THAT ON THE  
DAY OF THE  
WEDDING SHE  
WOULD COME  
BACK TO KILL  
YOU, YUKO.

WHY DO I  
SEE KAGEMI IN  
MY DREAMS?  
WASN'T  
THE SPELL  
BROKEN?



WHEN YUKO  
SAW ME, SHE  
PANICKED.  
SHE THREW ME  
OUT INTO THE  
HALLWAY.

BUT  
ON THE  
WEDDING  
DAY--

THEN SHE HID  
INSIDE THE  
ROOM AND  
LOCKED THE  
DOOR.

I DRESSED  
UP AS A  
BRIDESMAID  
AND WENT INTO  
YUKO'S ROOM.

I CARRIED A VIAL  
OF POISON AND A  
SAMPLE OF OLD  
AD COPY I ONCE  
WROTE. AND THE  
BLACK DRESS...

ADDITIVE

I  
LOVED  
YOU  
ALL  
WAYS.

VO-  
SHIDA.

YOU WERE  
A WARM RAY  
OF SUNLIGHT  
ACROSS MY  
BLACK SOUL.

I  
WAS SO  
HAPPY TO  
HAVE MET  
YOU.

WHAT  
TIME..

...IS  
IT?

**STAY SAFE**  
 FROM THE  
 CROWD  
 WITH  
 A  
 MASK  
 AND  
 GLOVES

THEY HAD  
DECIDED TO  
KIDNAP THE MAY  
HOMESIDE HOST  
AND SHE WAS  
TAKEN AWAY AS  
A PRISONER.  
SHE WAS  
READY TO LIVE  
ANOTHER

ALTHOUGH  
KAGURU CAME  
UP WITH THE  
PLOT...

...WE ALL EXPERIENCED THE RUSH OF HATE AND JOY WHEN WE SENT THE FIRST VICTIM TO HER DEATH.

WE SENT  
KAGRI TO  
HER DEATH  
AS WELL,  
PRISTINATED  
BY LOSING A  
LOVED ONE.

WE NEVER  
REALLY HAD  
A JUSTIFICA-  
TION FOR  
KILLING  
HER.

POOR  
KAORI.  
WHERE DID  
WE GO  
FROM?

I WANT  
TO GO BACK.  
BACK TO  
THOSE GOOD  
TIMES WITH THE  
THREE OF US...



WHAT AM  
I DOING  
HERE?

I DON'T  
REMEM-  
BER...

...ANY-  
THING.

HOW DID I  
GET THESE  
INJURIES?



AN OLD  
LOVER  
OF MINE  
KILLED  
HERSELF...



HOW COULD  
I HAVE  
FORGOTTEN?

...AT A  
HOTEL  
A WHILE  
BACK.

END OF  
CYCLE 14



DARN.



ANYWAY,  
WHY DO YOU  
ASK?

NOW I  
HAVE TO  
START FROM  
SCRATCH!

I WAS  
WONDERING IF  
THERE WAS  
SOME OTHER  
CIRCUMSTANCE...

WELL...  
YOU'RE NOT  
RELATED...

...OR  
ANYTHING.



NANAME...

WHERE  
DID YOU  
FIRST MEET  
SHINOTAKI?

WHAT?

OH,  
NO!

ALL MY  
DATA GOT  
DELETED!  
ARGH!

A  
9  
9  
9  
9  
h  
h!



TAKE  
ME TO YOUR  
PLACE.

I'LL  
TAKE  
CARE OF  
IT.

I'LL  
WASH THIS  
FOR YOU!

WHAT?

IT  
SOUNDS  
...

...LIKE  
SOME-  
THING  
HE'D  
DO.

I DON'T  
BELIEVE  
IT!

WHAT  
IN THE  
WORLD?

Aaaaahhhhh!

AND  
THIS IS STILL  
NEW!

JUST WASH  
IT AND THEN  
YOU CAN  
WEAR IT  
AGAIN.

YOU CAN'T  
DO THAT!  
WHAT A  
WASTE!

I'M NOT  
GOOD WITH  
DOING  
LAUNDRY.

PERHAPS  
YOU'D LIKE  
TO HAVE THAT  
SHIRT?

SO WHEN  
MY CLOTHES  
GET DIRTY,  
I SIMPLY  
EXCHANGE  
THEM, LIKE  
THIS.





LET'S  
SEE WHAT  
YOU'VE  
GOT!



YOUR FIRST  
COMMISSION  
DIRECTLY  
FROM THE  
NEW OWNER!





WELCOME  
BACK, LUCY!

YOU  
REALLY FOUND  
HER?

W  
O  
W  
W  
W  
W  
!



IT  
SEEMS SHE  
WANDERED  
INTO UNFAMIL-  
IAR TERRITORY  
AND COULDN'T  
FIND HER WAY  
BACK HOME.

I SUP-  
POSE...

...IN THIS  
SITUATION, THE  
RESULTS ARE  
SATISFACTORY.



SHE'S  
DEFINITELY  
YOUR CAT,  
RIGHT?



I THOUGHT  
THAT WOULD  
HAPPEN.

HE'S OUT?  
WHAT AS  
MUST HAVE  
TURNED TAIL  
AND DISAP-  
PEARED.



Meow



Whaaaaa?

NO  
WAY!



...CON  
ARTIST.

IT'S  
JUST  
THAT  
HE'S  
SUCH  
A...



NOW...

...I KNOW  
THE EXTENT  
OF YOUR  
ABILITIES.

YOU'VE  
MADE THE  
GRADE--FOR  
NOW.

HE CALLED A  
PET DETECTIVE  
FRIEND OF  
HIS, SO THAT  
PROBABLY HAS  
SOMETHING TO  
DO WITH IT.

ほ？

DOES  
SHINOZAKI  
HAVE ANY  
SPECIAL  
ABILITY TO  
FIND  
ANIMALS?

I GUESS IT'S  
OKAY FOR THAT  
LITTLE GIRL  
THERE.

He just from  
now on, I'm  
going to work  
hard to the  
best

I THOUGHT  
IT WOULD BE  
SOMETHING  
LIKE THAT.

SO HE  
CHEATED  
AFTER ALL.







# A Workplace Mystery – Part 5



# A Workplace Mystery – Part 3



# A Workplace Mystery – Part 1



# Mysterious Experiences-II The First Installment!

# A Workplace Mystery – Part 4



# A Workplace Mystery – Part 2





In the next volume of

# SECRET CHASER

Shinozaki's next case involves a reclusive, rich orphan in need of companionship. Her name is Shiori Seijo, heir to the powerful Seijo corporation. But Shiori is plagued by horrible nightmares, as well as a strange condition that has rendered one of her eyes blood red. The question is: what can Shinozaki and Aileen do for the young girl? And what about the old woman caretaker with traces of blood on her hands?

Unravel the mysteries along with the  
*Secret Chaser* in volume 2!

シノザキチヤイサー ①

鉄山たまよ





# SECRET CHASER

Tatsuron Shinozaki is a priest with a past that's shrouded in secrecy—until a mysterious woman strolls into his church announcing she's looking for the "red penguin." When the police are pulled in to help, suddenly the woman isn't everything she seems to be. She drops a post-hypnotic suggestion on a detective, and the journey to uncover the red penguin takes a mystical turn that unveils a shadowy society linked to Tatsuron.

Creator Tamayo Akiyama, an original member of CLAMP, has crafted an extraordinary manga series packed with an intriguing combination of otherworldly mystery and conspiracy-theory paranoia.



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